GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3098
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2001
PROCUREMENT OF PADDY
SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the States where relaxation was given to the farmers in procurement of paddy and wheat alongwith the nature of the relaxation given; and

(b) the reasons for not giving relaxation in other States and the quantum of procurement made in the States in which relaxation was given as compared to other States, where relaxation was not given?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM CHAUHAN)

(a) In order to reduce the hardship of farmers and to ensure procurement of paddy by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and its agencies, the Government has relaxed the specification of paddy during the current Kharif Marketing Season 2000-2001 in respect of the States of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal permitting procurement of paddy with damaged, discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains up to a maximum limit of 8%, as against 3% provided under Uniform (FAQ) Specification. In case of Bihar, procurement of paddy has been permitted with damaged, discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains up to a maximum limit of 6%, as against 3% provided under Uniform Specification, and of immature, shrunken and shriveled grains upto a maximum limit of 6% as against 3% provided under uniform (FAQ) specifications. In the State of Andhra Pradesh, the procurement of Swarna Masuri variety of paddy at Rs.540/- per quintal has been permitted.

No relaxation in specification of wheat has been extended.

(b) The States of Rajasthan and Maharashtra have not been granted relaxation in paddyspecification as there was no report regarding damage to paddy due to unseasonal rains. The State wise position of procurement of paddy during Kharif Marketing Season 2001, as on 12th March, 2001, is given as under:

(Figures in tones)

Andhra Pradesh	99,115
Bihar	7,306
Haryana	13,60,385
Himachal Pradesh	713
Punjab	86,29,298
Uttar Pradesh	5,40,179
Uttaranchal	62,593
Maharashtra	31,889
Rajasthan	31,335